

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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C<sup>2</sup>  
Claim 4 (Amended) An isolated recombinant protein from merozoite of *Babesia caballi*, wherein said protein is expressed in a host cell transformed with a DNA vector into which cDNA having the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, or cDNA having the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 with one to several amino acid residues therein being deleted, substituted or added, is incorporated into the DNA vector.

Claim 5 (Amended) The isolated recombinant protein of claim 4, wherein said protein is immunologically reactive with an antibody or antiserum elicited by a 48kDa protein of rhoptry of *Babesia caballi* merozoite.

Claim 6 (Amended) The isolated recombinant protein of claim 4, wherein said protein is expressed in a host cell transformed with a DNA vector into which cDNA having the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 is incorporated.

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